

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
)
 HANSON S. GIFFORD, III, *et al.*)
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 Application No.: Unassigned)
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 Filed: Herewith)
)
 For: METHODS AND DEVICES FOR)
 PROTECTING A PASSAGEWAY)
 IN A BODY WHEN ADVANCING)
 DEVICES THROUGH THE)
 PASSAGEWAY)
)

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the subject application as indicated below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 7, before "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" please add the following heading and paragraph:

--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/416,309, filed October 12, 1999.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete claims 1-25, 42-52 and 67 in this application.

10090155.030402